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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,645	09/29/2004	Jerry Karlsson	7589.207.PCUS00	5644

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EXAMINER

MAZUMDAR, SONYA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1734

DATE MAILED: 04/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/711,645

**Applicant(s)**

KARLSSON ET AL.

**Examiner**

Sonya Mazumdar

**Art Unit**

1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-7 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 10-23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/29/04, 2/22/05
- 4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. 3/23/2006
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restriction***

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1 through 7, drawn to a coating apparatus, classified in class 156, subclass 487.
  - II. Claims 8 through 23, drawn to a method of coating, classified in class 156, subclass 275.7.
2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another and materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP § 806.05(e)). In this case, the claimed process can be practiced by another and materially different apparatus, one without the use of a flocking device for applying fibers.
3. Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
4. During a telephone conversation with Tracy Druce on March 23, 2006, a provisional election was made without traverse to prosecute the invention of Group II, claims 8 through 23. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying

to this Office action. Claims 1 through 7 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

***Priority***

5. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for priority based on application PCT/EP03/03303 filed March 29, 2003, which itself claims for foreign priority based on an application filed in Germany on March 29, 2002. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed neither certified copies of PCT/EP03/03303 nor DE 10214010.3 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

***Drawings***

6. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "5" in Figure 1 has been used to designate both adhesive in the sieve and non-adhesive area next to the doctor blade. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

7. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the composite layer

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structure with areas delimited of adhesive and/or fibers which are suitable for guiding a liquid or gaseous medium or for containing objects in claim 15 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

8. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 14, paragraph 69, "sir" should be changed to "air".

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Objections***

9. Claims 10 through 25 objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims have not been further treated on the merits.

10. Claims 8 and 9 are objected to because of the following informalities: on the 7<sup>th</sup> line of claim 8, "a ad" should be changed to "and"; on the 10<sup>th</sup> line, the apostrophe next to "of " should be removed; on the 4<sup>th</sup> line of claim 9, "a rid adhesive" should be "and adhesive". Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

11. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

12. Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The term "and/or" in claim 8 is a term in which multiple use of the term renders the claim indefinite. The term "and/or" is not defined by the claim in that it is unclear as to what limitations or combinations of limitations are encompassed by the claim. The term is also used in claims 14, 15, and 16.

13. Claim 9 recites the limitation "the cover sheet" in 8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

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14. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

15. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Anderson et al. (US 3684637)

With respect to claim 8, Anderson et al. teach a method for producing a laminate with cover sheets (19, 40) and a core there between comprising adhesive and fibers. Before the two cover sheets are joined together, one cover sheet (19) is applied with adhesive (23), and the other cover sheet (40) is initially applied with adhesive (42) and then fibers of different kinds (52) from a flock supply (53). (column 2, line 13 –column 3, line 60; column 4, lines 50-67; Figure 2)

16. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Sobolev (US 5030488).

With respect to claim 9, Sobolev teaches a method for producing laminates comprising two sheets with a filled resin and fibrous core. Before the two sheets are joined together, one cover sheet is applied in certain areas with a mixture of adhesive and fibers by a spray nozzle. (abstract; column 8, lines 17-22; column 11, lines 38-45; Figures 1A and 1B)

### ***Conclusion***

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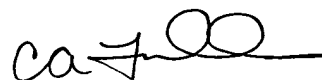
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sonya Mazumdar whose telephone number is (571) 272-6019. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Fiorilla can be reached on (571) 272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



SM



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